GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:594
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2006
PRICE OF PETROLEUM PRODUCTS
Barman Shri Ranen

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether petroleum prices have been witnessing frequent and considerable increase in the international market since some time past;

(b) if so, the details of trends of prices both in terms of US Dollar and Euro as prevailed in the international market during the last twelve months and in January, 2006; and

(c) the details of on-going import contracts with oil producing countries which are unaffected by the escalation in price ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Trends in international prices during the last twelve months including January, 2006, are given in Annex.

(c): Oil companies enter into term contracts with national oil companies of oil producing companies at Official Selling Price (OSP). These contracts provide only for assurance of supplies but the prices are linked to variations in the international market.

ANNEX

Trend in the international oil prices

Crude oil (Indian Basket) $/bbl	Petrol $/bbl	Diesel $/bbl	Kerosene $/bbl	LPG $/MT
Feb`05	42.58	53.70	50.09	52.24	369.20
Mar`05	49.27	58.72	59.83	63.74	380.00
Apr`05	49.43	60.23	61.36	69.00	416.80
May`05	47.02	53.37	56.45	61.09	421.80
June`05	52.72	58.38	65.61	66.98	394.80
July`05	55.01	63.43	66.89	67.75	399.80
Aug`05	60.03	72.52	68.09	73.42	403.60
Sept`05	59.74	78.93	71.78	75.70	438.2
Oct`05	56.28	67.91	67.97	71.33	517.0
Nov`05	53.31	59.48	57.69	60.91	547.0
Dec`05	55.05	59.90	60.23	66.99	536.00
Jan`06	60.61	65.42	64.95	72.85	581.00
Feb`06	60.12	63.26	62.45	73.38	625.00
(upto 14th) Average (Apr`05 to 14th Feb`06)	55.39	63.84	63.95	69.09	480.09
Percentage Increase in international prices in April`05 to 14th Feb`06	137.6%	141.5%	174.8%	191.9%	147.5%
Percentage - Increase in current retail price over Mar`02 (Delhi retail prices considered)	63.8%	83.54%	0.78%	22.58%	

#At current conversion rate 1Euro = US$1.1926

The composition of Indian Basket of Crude represents Average of Oman & Dubai for sour grades and Brent (Dated) for sweet grade in the ratio of 58:42.